



The Arboretum Bulletin



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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

MAY, 1937

ANNUAL MEETING
ARBORETUM FOUNDATION
FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1937
Meet near North Entrance to Broadmoor
at 7 p. m.

THE Annual Meeting of the Arboretum Foundation will be held May 7th and will include a trip through the Arboretum under the direction of Dean Hugo Winkenwerder and Mr. Frederick Leissler. Members of the Foundation and all other persons interested, are invited to assemble promptly at 7:00 p. m. near the viaduct where the road from the north entrance to Broadmoor joins Lake Washington Boulevard.

Immediately following the inspection trip the party will proceed to Anderson Hall, on the University Campus, convening at 8:00 p. m. This meeting will be devoted to a short business session, a report on the year's progress, and an illustrated lecture on "American Alpines in Garden Design" by Mr. John Grant, of Victoria, B. C., Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society of London and an international authority on alpines.

As the work now being done on the Arboretum is progressing to a point where it is possible to visualize what the Arboretum will look like when completed the trip should be most interesting.

The public is invited to join in the "walk" and to attend the Annual Meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Chairman of the Acquisitions Committee of the Arboretum Foundation wishes to take this opportunity to express appreciation for the many gifts of plants made during the past year and for the interest many individuals, Garden Clubs, and others are showing in looking forward to an opportunity to sponsor special projects.

It is hoped that a complete list of accessions and donors may be presented in the next issue of THE BULLETIN.

MRS. LOREN GRINSTEAD,
Chairman, Acquisitions Committee.

PROVISION BEING MADE FOR PROPAGATION OF RHODODENDRONS

At a recent meeting of the Acquisitions Committee of the Arboretum Foundation, it was decided to employ Mr. Andre Ostbo on a retainer of \$50.00 a month for a period of one year for propagating rhododendrons. Four of the members immediately subscribed \$50.00 each and \$400.00 additional is needed. Mr. Ostbo is not only recognized as a leading authority on rhododendron identification but as the outstanding propagator of the Northwest. With the host of material in species and varieties available for propagation his services in two years' time will give us one of the finest collections in the world. Contributions to this fund will be most helpful.

MRS. LOREN GRINSTEAD,
Chairman, Acquisitions Committee.
14301 Third Ave. N.W., Seattle.

PROGRESS OF DEVELOPMENT

Since the last report on the Progress of the Development of the Arboretum, made in January, the work has been going forward in a most satisfactory manner. In fact, it has now reached a stage where one can begin to visualize the magnitude of the undertaking and something of what the completed project will mean, namely, one of the most attractive and valuable assets of the entire Pacific Northwest. Many persons who have visited the area recently have expressed themselves in most enthusiastic terms.

Although the work of development will literally never be completed it is hoped that at the end of the two-year Works Progress Administration Project now in progress we may have gone a long way toward giving the Arboretum an appearance of completion. The physical features including grading, driveways, trails, water and drainage systems, the lighting system, the greenhouse, and the entrance lodges will practically all of them have been completed. In addition to these basic developments many thousands of plants will have been set out in their final location and other thousands started from seeds and cuttings now in the nursery will be ready for transplanting.

However, new species and varieties suitable for this climate will always be coming in for addition to the collections, the rearrangement of some of the plantings will be necessary and, of course, the scientific studies of plants under permanent control, the study of botanical relationship, of cultural requirements, of pest control, the propagation of specimens for exchange and distribution and many other activities will increase from year to year.

Following is a detailed statement of progress to April 25, 1937:

1. *Approval of WPA Project.* For those who are not familiar with the way in which the WPA Projects were submitted it may be well to repeat at this time that the entire area of 260 acres was divided into six sections and a separate project submitted for each. The cost of each project varies somewhat but the average is slightly more than

\$100,000. All of these projects have now had complete Federal approval.

2. *Approval of Board of Park Commissioners, City of Seattle.* At a regular session of the Board on April 22 the basic plans as submitted to the WPA received complete approval. The resolution made the specific requirement that there were to be no changes in any of the important details except upon joint approval of the Board of Park Commissioners and the Regents of the University. For the uninitiated it should be stated here that Washington Park has been leased to the University indefinitely for the development of an Arboretum and that the University has complete control of all collections and scientific work. The city on the other hand retains the right to use the area as a park and agrees as funds are available to take care of roadways and lighting and furnish water and police protection. It should be emphasized that the Arboretum is a Northwest project, not a city project. The city is one of the co-operators.

3. *Water System.* This is now nearing completion. Six thousand feet of mains have been laid extending from East Madison Street to East Lynn Street at both of which places they tap the city mains thus providing for a circulating system. In addition about 20,000 feet of 1-inch and 2-inch laterals have been laid. Each lateral is supplied with a shut-off valve.

4. *Trails.* Sixty-one thousand feet of 6, 3, and 10-foot trails have been graded.

5. *Greenhouse, 20x140 feet.* This is now nearing completion. Although it was expected to have this building complete by the first of the year various delays have made this impossible.

6. *Hot and Cold Frames.* No additional construction since last report. Total about 1200 square feet.

7. *Entrance Lodges.* Ground has been broken for the lodge near the entrance at East Madison Street and construction is going forward. This building, to be constructed of Enumclaw granite, is beautifully designed and will have office space, comfort station, and living quarters for a guard who will be available to direct visitors and answer questions.

Funds to purchase materials for the lodge at the north entrance were donated by one of the friends of the Arboretum. Plans are now being prepared.

8. *Accessions*. (In round numbers) Total number of plants, excluding native material, brought into the Arboretum, 26,650, representing 816 species and 1,650 varieties. Many of these are being held in the nursery and will be set in their final location later.

Seeds obtained, 76,000, representing 320 species and 560 varieties.

In plants, seeds and cuttings there are, of course, some duplications of species and varieties.

SEEDS OF A RARE TREE AVAILABLE TO ARBORETUM FOUNDATION MEMBERS

Mr. R. Kent Beattie of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., wrote: "Permit me to call your attention to a great field of operations which has not been sufficiently worked in your region as yet and which your Arboretum could easily undertake, and that is the development of a collection of American trees, particularly of Pacific Coast trees. The City of Seattle is already noted for its use of native trees and shrubs in its plantings. With such a lot of native vegetation around you it seems very desirable to make use of it and to study its horticultural possibilities. During the early part of 1929 a number of explorers came from England and other European countries and gathered seeds of our Pacific Northwest trees. In England they have proved to be the very best of their foreign introductions and they are now dominant factors in the English plantings. Some of them have not yet been developed as far as may be possible. Search should be made in the woods for weeping forms, with forms for variation in foliage or varieties which will be useful in horticulture. There are on the Pacific Coast a great many trees which are very local in their distribution and which are therefore, very rare in the world. There occurs, for example, in the Siskiyou Mountains of Southwestern Oregon and Northwestern California a very rare spruce, *Picea breweriana*. It is a weeping spruce. As far as is known there are only seventeen spots in the

world where this tree grows wild and they are all in that region. There are only a few thousand trees in existence. A study of the propagation of that tree should be made and it ought, by all means, to be in your collection."

Plantings of this rare tree have been made in the nursery of the Arboretum and a limited surplus of seeds is available for distribution to the members of the Arboretum Foundation who have so loyally supported the project through the early stages of its growth. Distributed to members only.

Requests should be made to Mrs. First Johnson, Secretary, 2902 West Eaton, Seattle, Washington.

JOIN THE ARBORETUM FOUNDATION

Although the work on the Arboretum is progressing most satisfactorily the only unattached funds available (i. e., funds not budgeted or given for a specific purpose) come largely from memberships in the Arboretum Foundation. As these funds are very limited it often makes it extremely difficult to meet certain unforeseen expenditures and practically impossible to take advantage of opportunities that will perhaps never present themselves again.

While the WPA Project is in force all the labor required is available, but not the material. Members of the Foundation can be very helpful by bringing in new members. Funds from memberships will now bring greater results than in the future. The advantages of being a member of the Arboretum Foundation include:

1. Participation in the distribution of surplus material.
2. Free lectures of interest to gardeners and plant lovers.
3. Personally conducted tours over the Arboretum.
4. The satisfaction of knowing that you have taken part in the development of one of the greatest civic undertakings of the Northwest.

These advantages of course will multiply gradually as the Arboretum develops. Join the Arboretum Foundation now and induce a friend to join.

MRS. FIRST JOHNSON, *Secretary*,
2902 West Eaton, Seattle.

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